



City of Seat Pleasant

Office of the Director of Economic Development
Director Weyimi Ayu

A SMART CITY OF EXCELLENCE

“Seat Pleasant offers Smart City Services that are better, faster and personalized making it a City for Me using information and communication technology, with the internet of things”

Department Name Economic Development

Date of Report: November 1, 2018

Reporting Period September 2018

Summarize significant department progress for the reporting period that is indicative of providing services that are better, faster and personalized

- **New Director**- Economic Development has a new director, Mr. Will Jolley, of Washington, DC.
- **USDA**- We are still currently in the bidding process for USDA, to obtain a General Contractor (GC) for the new renovation of City Hall and Public Works buildings located at 6301 Addison Rd. This is our second bidding process, as the first wasn't successful, therefore forcing the City to go for rebid. The award of such is still forthcoming.
- **General Housing Trust Fund**- The Department of Economic Development has currently acquired 7 homes to help with our vacant home and blight crises. Their addresses are 6212 Addison Rd, 6512 Seat Pleasant Dr, 6003 Seat Pleasant Drive, 710 71st Street, 6211 Foote Street, 6224 Foote Street, and the recently sold 716 Cabin Branch Ave. 710 71st street is still being renovated from the interior to the exterior with projected completion by October 1. 6212 Addison Road is currently on the market for sale of \$350k.
- **SmartBuy Program**- The Department of Economic Development has currently acquired 7 homes which after renovation will be put into the SmartBuy inventory for PG County.
- **Grocery Store**- The City has attempted to acquire a new grocery store Good Foods Markets, to come to Seat Pleasant. More information in this regard is forthcoming.
- Our Master Plan has been completed by Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill, LLC. Several meetings have occurred to make sure it was successfully implemented. Final draft is complete and awaiting to be bound.

GRANTS DIVISION

Gaskins Property Demolition:

- City's contracted Project Manager, Mr. Carlton Wilkerson will oversee this project.
- Broughton Construction was determined to be the most responsive bidder.
- A meeting was held between Grant Manager, Project Manager and Broughton representative to discuss the proposed General Contractor agreement. Discussion was focused on a definitive "No

Change Order” clause in the contract as the received bids were very close to the awarded grant amount.

- No-Change Order” clause is being mandated due to the additional and potential significant cost of hazardous material testing and removal.
- A scope of work draft document was requested and received from Broughton, which is being reviewed by the Mr. Wilkerson.
- Notices to residents, businesses in the surrounding areas are ready to be mailed once contract is signed.
- Progressive activity will commence during the month of September.

CDBG:

PY 42- Street Repair:

- Project completed.
- Pending reimbursement. Request for reimbursement documentation has been submitted

PY 43- Street Repair Project:

- Environmental reviewed streets have been determined. They include:
 - 68TH St. – from: James Farmer Way to MLK, Jr. Hwy
 - Eads St. – from Addison Rd. to 69th St.
 - Foote St. – From MLK, Jr. Hwy to 62nd st. (OK)
 - 71st Ave. – from 71st Ct. to Pleasant valley Ct. to end of street
- General Contractor selection pending within the next 10 business days

PY 44- Street Repair and Acquisition:

- Not received

PY 45:

- Program year application training, Tuesday, September 11, 2018, 9:30am to 1:00 pm.

Prince Georges County Municipal Collaboration:

- Three (3) City residents have submitted applications: Two (2) have received the initial phase of having an energy audit of their home. One (1) is pending an appointment. All three are senior citizens.
- The Funding agency requested municipalities to reach out to their Hispanic residents. A letter introducing the program has been generated and will include a Hispanic version of the application. Mr. Daniel Rodriguez, a 19-year Hispanic volunteer of the City’s Department of Public Engagement will be assisting in engaging interest in the program among Hispanic residents of the City.

Pet Waste Station Initiative:

- Members of the Chesapeake Conservation Corp, a green jobs program created by the Maryland Legislature to educate and train the next generation of environmental stewards, will be working with the Sustainable Maryland’s Pet Waste Station Initiative Program.

- The representatives will be visiting municipalities to gather GPS coordinates of each of the pet waste stations and take photos. This will be uploaded to the State's Pet Waste App that we are creating for the County this fall, as part of the State grant requirements.
- This activity will be coordinated with Public Works Director Brown.
- Municipalities are also expected to support the Pet Waste Initiative with community outreach via municipal newsletter articles, social media platforms and websites, which Seat Pleasant has been doing.

Planning Assistance to Municipalities and Communities Project (PAMC):

- The PAMC was awarded to the City after an Economic Development Director and a Prince George's Planning Department representative meeting at which this untapped funding source was part of the meeting agenda. The Planning Department provided the application and \$48,400 was awarded to the City. The grant is restricted to technical assistance only. The Seat Pleasant project will be design plans for streetscape enhancements for MLK. The project is two parts. The second part[while not finalized] was to involve Smart technology enhancement designs for all businesses on MLK. However, this may take a new direction (see last bullet in this section)
- Grant kick-off meeting was held in mid-August which included representation from the Prince George's County Planning Department, PAMC Program Coordinator, Neighborhood Revitalization Transportation Planning Sections of the Community Planning Division, Senior Planner of MD-NCPPC, STV Contract Consultants Firm, Maryland Historic Trust, State Highway Administration and Seat Pleasant legislative and government staff members.
- The PAMC was enlightened on the for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Highway Revitalization Project's (MLK) vision and efforts, which included the Smart City transformation, Master Plan, The new downtown, discussion of the Chesapeake Trail. Since this was not part of the approved project description, additionally discussions by the Planning Board are being revisited to see what could be done within the restrictions of the Program regulations. A confirmed date is being deliberated for the second or third week in September for the next meeting between the PAMC and the City.
- The meeting consisted of introductions, project information, public engagement plans, and post-completion activities. The meeting was followed by a walk-thru tour of MLK of all attendees.
- The Watkins Building [located near the intersection of MLK and Eastern Avenue] proved to be of significant interest to the Committee. By Seat Pleasant being a Gateway Community this historic building was collectively thought to be a great starting place for the development of a historic and innovative entrance to the City.

Grant Research Project:

- Councilmember Jones reported on couple in her ward that are in need of a interior stair lift and an exterior wheelchair ramp. The couple are in their 80's, one a stroke victim and one with cancer currently undergoing minor chemo therapy.
- A visit was made to the home by the Grant Manager and Department of Public Engagement Administrative Assistant. The visit was made to:
 - Photograph the current stairlift/serial number to determine if it can be repaired but most likely replaced
 - Photograph the exterior typography of the front entrance to evaluate ramp possibilities
- Grants are being researched through organization such as Christmas in April, Maryland Department of Aging and the Maryland Health Care Commission.

Expenditures

Offers ____ to ____

FY2017 Budget (Previous Year)	FY 2018 Budget (Current Year)	FY 2018 Actual (Current Year)
\$6,489,779.01	\$6,124,205.00	\$485,395.85

Attachments: Net Suite for Economic Development